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A MONTHLY MARKET JOURNAL DEVOTED TO THE INTERESTS OF THE ASBESTOS AND MAGNESIA INDUSTRIES

A. S. ROSSITER, *EDITOR*

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R. W. Steele Elected President Asbestos Corporation Limited

The Directors of Asbestos Corporation Limited, at a meeting held in Montreal on January 24th, elected Robert W. Steele to the Presidency, succeeding the late Colonel Robert F. Massie.

ROBERT W. STEELE,
Newly Elected President of Asbestos Corporation Ltd.,
Thetford Mines, P. Q., Canada

Photo by Courtesy of "Who's Who In Canada."

Mr. Steele has been a Director of Asbestos Corporation Limited for some years, and was closely in touch with the late Colonel Massie, and with those policies which have been so instrumental in bringing about an important rehabilitation in the affairs of the Corporation.

Mr. Steele was born at Orangeville, Ont., in February 1888. He joined the Dominion Securities organization in 1904, and in 1909 was placed in charge of the Company's business from Port Arthur to the Pacific Coast. He was made Manager at Montreal in 1915, and in 1926 was elected Vice President of the Company.

In order to be in a position to give his full attention to the important duties in connection with his new position as President of Asbestos Corporation Limited, Mr. Steele will relinquish the office of Vice President and Montreal Manager of Dominion Securities.

In addition to his connection with Dominion Securities Corporation, Mr. Steele is also Vice President of Brompton Pulp & Paper Co., Ltd., and a Director of St. Lawrence Paper Mills Ltd., Bathurst Power & Paper Co. Ltd., Valleyfield Silk Mills Ltd., Canadian Collieries (Dunsmuir) Ltd., Western Fuel Co. Ltd., and Claremont Paper Company.

Mr. Steele is a golfing and fishing enthusiast, and is a member of the Royal Montreal and the Whitlock Golf Clubs. He is also a member of the Winter Club of Montreal, and the Royal Montreal Curling Club, and the St. James's, Montreal, Canada and Toronto Clubs. He also finds time to take an interest in educational affairs in Montreal, and is a School Commissioner for the City of Westmount.

The Triple Insulated House

Johns-Manville, thru its research laboratory, has evolved what it is pleased to call the "Triple Insulated" House, and the first of these houses has been built in New Rochelle, N. Y., and thrown open to the public on December 30th.

This house is of much interest to the Asbestos Industry as it is built with the idea of incorporating asbestos materials in its construction wherever possible.

The exterior of the house is asbestos-cement shingles, both walls and roof; J-M Home Insulation (rock wool) insulates it thruout both as to walls and roof; the interior walls are plaster applied over steel wire mesh attached to a fibrous backing—therefore the "triple insulated."

The chief object in the building of this house is to bring sturdy, lasting construction of homes within the reach of the average citizen.

The house just built in New Rochelle is not "modern" nor "freakish" in appearance, but is of the colonial type of home of moderate cost and most attractive.

Asbestos In Sulphur Mining and In the Manufacture of Sulphuric Acid

By R. G. Skerrett

Asbestos is helping in important ways to mine another mineral that also plays an indispensable part in our modern complex life as a nation; and, further, asbestos lends its essential aid in transforming that mineral into another commodity that works wonders in a myriad of directions. We refer first to the mineral sulphur and, next, to sulphuric acid which is extensively produced today from sulphur, where for a long while a sulphurous ore or pyrites was employed.

For decades, most of the sulphur used in the United States came from Sicily, and we also imported a very large tonnage of pyrites to be used in the manufacture of sulphuric acid. The United States became independent of alien sources of supply and assumed the dominating position in the marketing of sulphur when Herman Frasch, thirty-two years ago, perfected his unique system for mining sulphur discovered years before to exist in enormous quantities in certain rocky domes overlying deep-seated beds of salt located beneath the coastal areas of Louisiana and Texas. The output of those unique mines, five years ago, totaled more than two and a half million long tons, and we are today not only able to supply all the sulphur needed in this country but to rank preeminently first in world trade in that mineral.

It is not our purpose to deal in much detail with the Frasch process even tho it has made it possible for us to withdraw riches from subterranean deposits that cannot otherwise be mined. Briefly stated, the Frasch process provided means of forcing great volumes of super-heated water into the sulphur-bearing rock so as to melt the sulphur, and then, while fluid, to bring the yellow mineral up to the surface of the ground a thousand or more feet above the mineralized stratum. Sulphur melts at a temperature of 239 degrees Fahrenheit; and the water pump-

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CANADA

ed down into the cap rock of the salt dome is delivered there at a temperature well above the melting point of the mineral—in fact it is delivered to the mining wells at a temperature of 350 degrees Fahrenheit.

At Lake Grande Ecaille where the Freeport Sulphur Company is mining the mineral at depths of from 1,500 to 1,700 feet below the surface of that body of water, it has recently put into service an immense and typically modern plant in that barren marshy region to bring the deep seated sulphur up to the surface. That plant is equipped to send underground daily as much as 2,800,000 gallons of water. All that water has to be heated by a large battery of boilers, and it also has to be heated and chemically treated to make it fit both for the generation of steam and for melting the sulphur to be mined. In short the economic success of operations at Lake Grande Ecaille

The big power plant and some of the associate structures at Lake Grande Ecaille. Roofs and sides of the buildings are covered with corrugated asbestos-cement sheathing and the entire system of piping within the power plant is insulated with pipe covering containing asbestos.

is dependent upon the efficient use of fuel and, as far as practicable, the minimizing of heat losses by proper insulation of miles and miles of piping, boilers, water-treating apparatus, tanks, etc. Similarly, the mains that carry the molten sulphur from the tops of the wells to relay basins and thence to the storage bins are also insulated to keep the sulphur molten and to prevent it solidifying in the pipes and causing serious delays or heavy money losses. In all this insulation asbestos plays a prime and large part—the quantity being a considerable item in the list of essential materials. This use of asbestos is characteristic of all the plants in Louisiana and Texas

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Through constant research in the J-M Laboratories, scores of other items have been developed, important to the economic and physical welfare of people throughout the country.

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that are engaged in mining sulphur by the Frasch process. At Lake Grande Ecaille, the permanent steel-framed power plant and auxiliary buildings are covered with asbestos siding and roofing. These are deemed the best protection against the corrosive action of the atmosphere that is more or less acid, because of the prevalence of the sulphur fumes.

Today, sulphur is the immediate source of millions of tons of sulphuric acid, which is employed in a multiplicity of ways: for instance in petroleum refining, in making rayon and cellulose, in the treating of textiles, and in a wide variety of metallurgical activities. Indeed, the use of sulphuric acid has well been said to serve as a re-

Miles and miles of piping leading from the power plant to the sulphur mining area are insulated with 85% Magnesia and an enveloping weather proof jacket containing asbestos.

liable index of national activities, because the acid is essential to well-nigh all branches of industry. For a long time, the sulphuric acid of commerce was made by the so-called chamber process which has revolutionized the art. The up-to-date contact process starts out with pure sulphur in place of the long-used pyrites, and the sulphur is burned so as to produce sulphurous fumes, technically termed SO_2. The next step is to add one more unit of oxygen and thus bring into being SO_3—indispensable to the sulphuric acid of trade—which is first mixed with water and then concentrated by distilling until sufficiently strong for the different services to which it is put. The fundamental problem is to combine one more unit of oxygen with the SO_2; and in the contact process this is accomplished thru the agency of what is called a catalyst, which may popularly be described as a chemical matchmaker that possesses the unexplainable capacity to induce

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a union between chemical identities that normally would not unite when close neighbors. The amazing aspect to this transforming action is that the catalyst, itself, is unaffected. However, the catalyst may lose some of its wonder-working power and become impaired by exposure to high temperatures and the presence of impurities in the gaseous SO_2, and here is where asbestos has proved especially valuable in the contact process.

A mere glance thru the literature on sulphuric-acid manufacture by the contact process discloses that platinized asbestos has been found the most suitable and the most economical catalyst. The platinum is really the unionizer that causes the gaseous SO_2 to link with itself the desired unit of oxygen when a mixture of air and SO_2 is passed over the surface of the platinized asbestos. The asbestos functions as the durable support for the costly platinum, protects it in its mysterious work, offers the necessary contact surface, and survives much longer in service than any other material that has so far been found available. Furthermore, catalysts of this nature can be readily replaced with new ones as their efficiency drops beyond a prescribed standard, and this can be done quickly and with a minimum of interruption to the functioning of the acid-producing apparatus.

According to the type of contact apparatus, the arrangement of the platinized asbestos differs in various particulars. In those of some designs the gaseous mixture is filtered thru a fairly heavy layer of asbestos before being brought in contact with the platinized asbestos catalyst; while in another type the mixture of SO_2 and air is first put thru a rather thick layer of platinized asbestos and then follows a devious course thru numerous succeeding layers of platinized asbestos. However the structural details may differ, the part played by asbestos is an outstanding and an indispensable one.

Wherever molten sulphur is pumped, either by air lift or power-driven centrifugal pumps, pipe joints and other connections in the distributing system are packed with a non-corroding fabric or material made up with asbestos. And this also applies to the piping handling the

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Works: MILLINGTON, N. J.

waste water withdrawn from a sulphur-mining area which, unavoidably, is corrosive. Asbestos cements are extensively employed either as a sealing medium or as a protection to surfaces that might otherwise be exposed to the attack either of sulphurous fumes or to sulphuric acid in varying degrees of strength. In plants manufacturing sulphuric acid there are certain places where heat must be conserved, and asbestos insulation is largely depended upon for this purpose. Whether it be in the field where the Frasch process of mining is used or in those plants that produce sulphuric acid by either the chamber or the contact process, asbestos has essential services to perform; and in the aggregate the uses of asbestos represent a large tonnage of the mineral in one form or another.

Canada's Asbestos Manufacturing Industry In 1934

The Department of Trade and Commerce of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, at Ottawa, has recently published a four page pamphlet giving various information and tables concerning the Asbestos Products Industry for 1934.

We are quoting from this report and giving three of the tabulations which it contains:

Manufactures of asbestos products in Canada during 1934 were valued at $910,982, compared with $757,626 in 1933. The chief products in 1934 were: woven and moulded brake linings, $458,147; boiler and pipe coverings, $99,948; packings, $78,860; clutch facings, $49,317; gaskets, $21,580. Asbestos sheets, shingles, blackboards, paper, millboard, yarn and cements were also manufactured but as there were only one or two producers in each case the output figures cannot be shown separately.

A total of 11 plants reported in this industry in 1934; 4 were located in Quebec, 6 in Ontario and 1 in Nova

Scotia. The following tables will show the figures for the last 10 years:

Yrs.	No. of plants	Capital employed	Average number of employees	Salaries and wages	Cost of materials at works	Selling value of products at works	Value added by manufacturing
		$		$	$	$	$
1925	12	2,624,260	256	282,382	783,063	1,344,097	561,034
1926	14	2,773,433	270	321,865	750,907	1,530,094	779,187
1927	13	2,860,945	300	358,959	797,975	1,663,300	865,325
1928	14	3,064,164	345	421,448	925,661	2,050,432	1,124,771
1929	12	2,949,712	351	359,433	1,348,460	2,286,638	938,178
1930	11	2,316,645	306	401,490	1,327,025	2,301,924	974,899
1931	13	1,112,141	240	302,638	729,771	1,308,183	578,412
1932	13	2,682,882	279	280,953	559,673	1,067,801	508,128
1933	11	1,777,975	222	208,580	331,062	757,626	426,564
1934	11	1,391,873	228	233,379	387,074	910,983	523,909

PRODUCTION OF ASBESTOS BRAKE LININGS, PIPE COVERINGS AND PACKINGS

Years	Asbestos brake linings	Asbestos boiler and pipe coverings	Asbestos packings
	$	$	$
1925	272,217	179,717	187,916
1926	279,783	232,963	184,515
1927	326,072	277,339	204,376
1928	439,431	376,399	218,904
1929	555,739	406,395	234,595
1930	459,616	283,312	197,601
1931	321,664	178,611	144,983
1932	309,942	83,964	87,682
1933	316,938	65,725	91,597
1934	458,147	99,948	78,860

The following table shows the production and value of the several products for 1933 and 1934.

PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED, 1933 AND 1934

Products	Unit of measure	1933 Quantity	1933 Selling Value at works	1934 Quantity	1934 Selling Value at works
			$		$
Asbestos brake linings	ft.	1,707,544	316,938	2,692,184	458,147
Asbestos boiler and pipe coverings	ft.	827,667	65,725	1,207,301	99,948
Asbestos clutch facings	No.	126,362	19,572	338,069	49,317
Asbestos gaskets and tape	lb.	5,294	4,058	38,775	21,058
Asbestos packings	lb.	213,752	91,597	196,627	78,860
All other products[1]		.....	259,736	.....	203,653
Total		.....	757,626	.....	910,983

[1]Includes asbestos blackboards, millboard, paper, shingles, yarn, cements, etc., and rubber, duck and flax packings.

A man's life can be no bigger than the objects to which it is given.

Ruberoid Purchase Corporation Organized

The Ruberoid Purchase Corporation has recently been organized to assist in the financing of needed repairs, replacements and improvements in residential properties, according to announcement of Herbert Abraham, President of the Ruberoid Company.

The financing corporation, with ample capitalization and resources, has been approved for credit insurance by the Federal Housing Administration—it has been organized as a permanent institution to make character loans up to $2,000 to home owners for repair and modernization purposes on low-interest, monthly-payment terms identical with those provided for under the National Housing Act.

The President of the new company is Walter B. Harris, and the directors include Mr. Harris, G. F. Bahrs, L. C. Rugen, S. D. Van Vleet, and Charles F. Evans. Divisional offices will be maintained at 500 Fifth Avenue, New York City, and in Chicago and Mobile.

Loans in excess of $2,000,000 to home owners have already been placed with the organization.

The decision to organize the Ruberoid Purchase Corporation was based on two major considerations — the rapidly growing demand among home owners for a simplified method of obtaining loans for repairs and replacements, and the highly satisfactory experience of The Ruberoid Co. during the past 21 months with loans extended to more than 7,500 home owners under a similar plan.

Under the system developed for the Ruberoid Purchase Corporation, home owners desiring to make repairs or replacements may apply directly for loans thru Ruberoid distributors in their home localities. More than 1,800 Ruberoid dealers and applicators located in practically every section of the country are already participating in the plan. No special conditions are attached to the loan contracts except that 25% of the amount required for the needed building materials shall be expended for products of Ruberoid manufacture.

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Asbestos—Milling, Marketing and Fabrication

Such is the title of the third in a Series of Information Circulars being published by the United States Bureau of Mines, on the subject of Asbestos. Oliver Bowles is the author of the Series.

This new circular, No. I. C. 6869, as its title suggests, covers very comprehensively the subject of Milling, Marketing and Fabrication. Its chapter headings are

Classification of Fibre
Preparation of Fibre for Market (including general features of milling methods in the various producing countries)
Marketing
Prices
Asbestos Products Plants
Fabrication of Asbestos Products.

Copies of the Circular can be obtained by addressing the Section of Publications, U. S. Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C., and asking for Information Circular No. 6869. There is no charge but the Bureau of Mines, because of the limited edition, can supply but one copy to each applicant.

Johns-Manville Announce Extensive Expansion Program

Johns-Manville has announced the start of an extensive plant expansion program, calling for erection of a new $750,000 roofing plant at New Orleans and modernization and expansion of other building material plants over the country, for a total expenditure of approximately $1,500,000.

The announcement was made by Lewis H. Brown, president of Johns-Manville, on the eve of the company-wide conference opened in New York with a national radio forum of the building industry. Mr. Brown said the building program to construct new plants and enlarge existing ones is being undertaken by Johns-Manville with

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definite belief that the tide has turned in the building field and that this, added to the new products developed during the depression, will result in the need for increased production.

The first unit of the New Orleans plant will replace one now operating in leased quarters and will, when in full operation, give work to 400 men. It is expected to be in operation early next summer, producing asbestos and asphalt roofing and shingles, asbestos siding and similar building products.

Additions will also be made to the plants at Waukegan, Ill., producing asbestos-cement pipe, and plants to manufacture rock wool home insulation at Waukegan, Ill., and at Manville, N. J., are planned. Johns-Manville mines at Asbestos, P. Q., will be expanded and improved to care for increased demands for asbestos fibre.

Grey-Rock Products Use Sound Films to Present Merchandising Plans

Grey-Rock Products will be merchandised this year with the help of two half-hour Audi-Vision sound-film productions.

The first one, entitled "Reap year," describes the Merchandising Plan behind the entire Grey-Rock balanced Line of Automotive Products, while the second, "Balanced Brakes for Fleet Profits" dramatizes the Grey Rock Recommendation Guide and the Grey-Rock plan for balancing truck and bus brakes.

Premiere showings of both films were made by the United States Asbestos Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., in their parlors at the A. S. I. Show at Atlantic City. Grey-Rock field men have been equipped with machines and are supplementing their sales presentations with these interesting sound films.

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Ruberoid Acquires the Vermont Asbestos Corporation

Ownership of the Vermont Asbestos Corporation, with asbestos mine located at Eden, Vt., has been acquired by The Ruberoid Company, according to recent announcement of Herbert Abraham, President of the latter company. The property is now being operated under the name of the Vermont Production Co., Inc.

Plans for rapid expansion of the Company's operations, including additions to the present asbestos fiberizing plant which will greatly increase production, have been completed. Approximately 125 American workmen, largely recruited from the vicinity of Eden, have been employed in the past two years at the height of the operating season, and it is anticipated that, under the expanded program, this number will be considerably increased during the present year.

The Company's property with prospective additions comprises approximately 1700 acres of asbestos deposits on Belvidere Mountain, Lamoille County, Vermont. The product of the plant is the fibrous, silky variety of serpentine asbestos, milled from the chrysotile asbestos rock and used for a wide variety of purposes.

The Vermont Production Co., Inc., which has been incorporated in Vermont, will maintain sales offices at 500 Fifth Avenue.

An Index to A. S. T. M. Standards has recently been published by the Society and is of service in ascertaining whether the Society has issued any standard specifications or test methods covering particular engineering materials or subjects. Copies of the Index will be furnished without charge upon written request to the Society Headquarters, 260 S. Broad St., Philadelphia.

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Mine
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CONTRACTORS AND DISTRIBUTORS PAGE

REPAIRS AND MODERNIZATION MAKE A LARGE POTENTIAL MARKET

"On the basis of 1930 census figures, it is estimated that there are in this country approximately 26,000,000 single and two family houses. Of these it is estimated that about 62%, or 16,250,000 houses are in need of repairs.

"Home owners everywhere appear to be realizing more fully that delayed repairs not only detract from the appearance and comfort of their houses, but steadily reduce the value of their equities."

These two paragraphs are quoted from a news release by the Ruberoid Company.

Add modernization work, which does not necessarily come under the head of "repairs" and there is certainly a large potential market for building materials of all descriptions.

Distributors of asbestos cement shingles and other products, insulation contractors, can cash in on some of this repair and modernization work. Don't miss the opportunity.

BUILDING

Residential building ended the year 1935 with a total greater than for any year since 1931. According to figures of F. W. Dodge Corporation the volume of homebuilding operations, both new and alteration, totaled $478,843,100 in the 37 eastern states. This represented a gain of 92 per cent over the total of $248,840,100 reported for 1934. The 1931 total for the 37 eastern states aggregated $811,388,700.

For December, 1935, residential building amounted to $45,140,100. This was more than three times the total of $14,550,500 reported in the 37 states during December, 1934, and compares with $39,695,200 for November, 1935. "The customary seasonal dip between November and December thus failed to materialize in 1935 indicating the firmness of the recent recovery in residential building operation," is the way the Dodge organization characterizes the December results.

For all classes of construction, the December total in the 37 states amounted to $264,136,500 as against $188,115,000 for November and $92,684,900 for December 1934. In the December 1935 total which incidentally was the highest monthly volume since that reported for July, 1931, besides residential building, were included $124,506,000 for non-residential buildings;

$76,386,700 for public works of heavy engineering types; and $18,103,700 for public utilities.

For the full year 1935 construction awards of all descriptions in the 37 eastern states amounted to $1,844,544,900 as against $1,543,108,400 for 1934, a gain of almost 20 per cent between the two years. In the 1935 total, besides residential building, were included $675,488,600 for non-residential building; $578,541,800 for heavy public works; and $111,671,400 for public utilities. Comparable figures for 1934 follow: $543,031,800 for non-residential building; $625,044,500 for heavy public works; and $126,192,000, for public utilities. From these comparisons it is thus seen that the entire improvement in 1935 over 1934 was due to gains in residential and non-residential building as distinguished from engineering types which were actually undertaken on a lower scale than in 1934.

"If the building industry will organize and go out and sell its product, in view of the growing demand for new houses, the possibilities are enormous. No industry has ever faced such an opportunity before." So declared H. M. Shackelford, Sales Promotion Manager for J-M at a recent meeting of its dealers. Mr. Shackelford said that J-M recognized this need for coordination and cooperation. "Previously," he said, "manufacturers used high pressure salesmanship to load up dealers with products and then let the dealer wonder how he was going to get rid of them. Now, however, the manufacturer realizes that there must be cooperation and is taking steps to provide every possible assistance and guidance to help the building material retailer find a market for his products."

The Portland Cement Association will erect a model concrete home in the Texas Centennial Exposition's Home Planning Division (Dallas) and the plan of the house to be erected has been chosen from eighty-eight entries in an architectural-engineering competition. Among the rules and regulations for the competition was the specification that flat roofs were to be of concrete construction while a wood frame covered with concrete tile or ctment asbestos shingles was specified for sloping construction. The cost of the house must not exceed $4,500.

It is said that in 1926 the potential of Johns-Manville materials used in a house was 2%; today the total of J-M materials that can go into a house is 28%.

ASBESTOS

PRODUCTION STATISTICS

Africa (Rhodesia)

(Statistics published by Rhodesia Chamber of Mines)

	November 1935 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value		
Bulawayo District				
Nil Desperandum (African Asb. Mng. Co., Ltd.)	323.90	£6,196	10	0
Shabanie (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp., Ltd.)	2,976.10	43,040	9	5
Victoria District				
D. S. O. (Mashaba Rhodesian Asb. Co., Ltd.)	90.00	1,200	..	....
Gath's & King (Rho. & Gen. Asb. Corp., Ltd.)	602.25	8,321	1	10
	3,992.25	£58,758	1	3
November 1934	*2,096.35*	*£26,186*	*17*	*6*

Africa (Union of South)

(Statistics published by Dept. of Mines & Industries of U. of S. A.)

	November 1934 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	November 1935 Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
Transvaal				
Amosite	336.00	£3,360	424.81	£3,970
Blue	.....	.....	4.47	62
Chrysotile	1,045.20	9,325	1,067.53	10,243
Cape				
Blue	216.89	3,654	220.39	3,949
	1,598.09	£16,339	1,717.20	£18,224

Canada

(Statistics published by Bureau of Mines, Province of Quebec)

	November 1934 Tons (2000 lbs.)	November 1935 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Fibre	20,240	25,528

Final report for Production by quarters has been received from the Bureau of Mines, Province of Quebec and the figures follow:

ASBESTOS

	4th Quarter 1934 Tons (2000 lbs.)	4th Quarter 1935 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Crude (Nos. 1 & 2)	521	782
Milled (Nos. 3, 4, 5)	24,912	33,523
Milled (Nos. 6 & 7)	23,813	34,253
	49,246	68,558

	Year 1934[1] Tons (2000 lbs.)	Year 1935 Tons (2000 lbs.)
Crude (Nos. 1 & 2)	1,663	2,277
Milled (Nos. 3, 4, 5)	77,465	102,179
Milled (Nos. 6 & 7)	76,852	105,708
	155,980	210,164

[1]These figures are probably revised ones as they do not agree with figures previously published by the Quebec Bureau of Mines or by us.

QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA, DISCOVERS DEPOSIT

A deposit of high quality asbestos has been reported as discovered in the Mary Valley district near Gympie, Queensland, Australia.

Queensland has never been a producer of asbestos and it is said that this report is arousing much interest.

AUTOMOBILE PRODUCTION

Automobile Production for December 1935 in the United States and Canada totalled 421,579; compared with 156,318 in December 1934 and 83,755 in December 1933.

Total production for the year, comparing the last 8 years, is given in the following tabulation, the figures covering all motor vehicles produced in the United States and Canada:

1935	4,182,491	1931	2,472,351
1934	2,869,963	1930	3,510,178
1933	1,985,909	1929	5,621,715
1932	1,431,494	1928	4,630,000

ASBESTOS STOCK QUOTATIONS

	Par	Div.	January 1936 Low	High	Last
Asbestos Corpn. (Com.) New V. T.	np	–	17⅛	22	22
Certainteed (Com.)	np	–	13⅜	16¾	15
Certainteed (Pfd.)	100	7	80½	90	81
Johns-Manville (Pfd.)	100	7	121½	126¼	122¼
Johns-Manville (Com.)	np	–	94⅛	111	111
Raybestos-Manhattan (Com.)	np	1.00	28⅞	31	29¾
Thermoid (Com.)	np	–	8⅝	10¼	8⅞
Thermoid (Pfd.)	100	7	57	67½	62

ASBESTOS
MARKET CONDITIONS

General Business.

"The developments in the business situation during January have added some elements of uncertainty to the outlook, but on the whole seem to call for no great revision of previous opinions as to the 1936 prospect, and there is no evidence of change in the prevailing hopefulness, "says the National City February letter, and "Industrial operations during the month have shown a moderate slackening, such as many observers had expected after the unseasonably high level reached during December." This seems to agree, generally speaking, with conditions as found in the Asbestos Markets.

Asbestos. Raw Material.

There is a steady demand for all grades of asbestos. Normally the month of December finds buyers retarding deliveries. This was not the case in December 1935 which indicates that stocks were not large anywhere. Prices are firm.

Asbestos. Manufactured Goods.

Textiles. Volume of sales is fairly good, prices better than might be expected. The Ellenbogen Bill now before Congress, planned to control wages, hours, etc., in the general textile industries would, if passed, apply to asbestos textiles, hence it should be carefully studied by all interested, especially by the manufacturers.

Insulation. High Pressure. Complete sales figures for 1935 reveal an increase of five per cent over 1934. This is small encouragement because 1934 sales were nothing to shout about. As has been said so often of general unemployment, so it must be said of these products; normal employment and normal consumption depends on revival of the heavy goods industries.

Insulation. Low Pressure. Demand in this market has slackened very materially since January 1st, this because the stocks in hands of distributors, etc., were heavy at the close of the year. Prices are firm.

Paper and Millboard. Demand in this market is fair, with prices steady.

Asbestos-Cement Products. Conditions in the asbestos-cement shingle field continue along the same satisfactory lines as previously reported. Such new developments as there are in this field have to do with the design of siding shingles. Sidings are now being offered in tapered as well as uniform thicknesses and it is believed that this heavier siding with the thicker butt will have a particular appeal to architects and builders and will consequently become quite a factor as new residential construction increases in volume.

Asbestos shingle sales for 1935 showed an increase of more than 100% over 1934 in the number of squares sold, this increase being almost entirely due to the greater volume of siding shingles sold. Prices thruout the year remained practically unchanged resulting in very satisfactory operating conditions for distributors and dealers as well as for the consuming public. Sales at this time of the year, while off to some extent, due to the usual seasonal conditions, in comparison with the beginning of 1935 show definite beginnings of further increases in asbesos shingle sales for 1936.

Other asbestos-cement products such as corrugated sheets, flat sheets for industrial work, wallboards, etc., continue to enjoy a satisfactory market and slowly increasing demand indicating improved conditions in the industrial field.

The above come from men in close touch with field conditions in the various lines. Comments for this page are always most welcome.

British Investigate Asbestos Covered Wire

By Geoffrey Blackall

During the past year the British Electrical and Allied Industries Research Association carried out an important investigation on asbestos covered flexible wire.

In the course of the research work the experts experienced considerable difficulty in obtaining and controlling high humidities at high temperatures in an oven, and it was therefore not possible to determine accurately the variation of insulation resistance of the wire cover-

ings with temperature. They ultimately overcame the difficulty by developing a simple method by which it is possible to obtain in an oven any variation in humidity from zero to saturation at any temperature up to 100 degrees C. It is thought that this may have considerable applications beyond that of testing insulating materials.

This interesting fact is mentioned in the annual report of the association, just issued, but data regarding the actual research work has not yet been made available.

"Taxes Heavy—Just Wait"

The above is the title of an article by Frank R. Kent, in the January number of the American Magazine.

I urge all readers of "ASBESTOS" who are United States citizens, to read this article and urge others to read it.

Regardless of any party promises by any candidate, undoubtedly United States citizens are in for a burden of taxation that will reach right into the pocket of an ordinary workman, and that right heavily.

My idea is that a married man, earning $1,500 a year will, within a very short time, be taxed directly anything from $20.00 to $60.00 a year in addition to indirect, hidden taxes which no one can calculate.

Right now, as a nation, we are giving the tax gatherer thirty per cent of our national income. With the reckless, wasteful spending now going on, very soon 50% of every dollar we produce will be consumed by the various governmental bodies.

And while it is the rich who may be taxed it is always the producer, the worker, who *pays* the tax.

Quoting Dr. Sondern, "we have evidence of retrogression in the increasing domination of the group . . . . the former intrepid pioneer in thought and act, leaning more and more on the soft bosom of the state."

And the woeful fact is that nobody ever anywhere got something for nothing.

Even the robber gives more thought, energy and brains to his job than appears just now to be given by Mr. Average Citizen to his job as a citizen.

—C. J. STOVER.

ASBESTOS

IMPORTS AND EXPORTS

Imports into U. S. A.

(Figures published by U. S. Dept. of Commerce)

Unmanufactured Asbestos

	Nov. 1934 Tons (2240 lbs.)	Nov. 1935 Tons (2240 lbs.)
Africa (Br. S.)	49	5
Canada	9,395	14,503
Cyprus, Malta and Gozo	373	111
Italy	104	33
Soviet Russia	369	....
United Kingdom	7	....
	10,297	14,652
Value	$456,992	$494,031

Tabulation of Crudes and Fibres:

Crude (Africa — Br. S.)	49	5
Crude (Canada)	52	135
Crude (Italy)	1	....
Crude (United Kingdom)	7	....
Mill Fibre (Canada)	3,082	5,482
Lower Grades (Canada)	6,261	8,886
Lower Grades (Cyprus, etc.)	373	111
Lower Grades (Italy)	103	33
Lower Grades (Soviet Russia)	369	....
	10,297	14,652

Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	Nov. 1934 Value	Nov. 1935 Value
Austria	$556	$816
Canada	82	32
Czechoslovakia	....	196
Germany	935	806
United Kingdom	3,068	4,247
	$4,641	$6,097

Exports from U. S. A.

Exports of unmanufactured asbestos during November 1935 amounted to 114 tons valued at $24,002; compared with 134 tons, valued at $11,119 during November 1934.

Exports of Manufactured Asbestos Goods:

	November 1934		November 1935	
	Pounds	Value	Pounds	Value
Paper, Millboard, & Rlbd.	74,698	$4,427	116,417	$13,294
Pipe Covering and Cement	107,563	6,705	228,220	11,416
Textiles, Yarn, and Pkg.	99,814	51,875	123,900	51,665
Brake Lining—				
Molded and Semi-molded	.....	56,074	.....	48,220
Not Molded	117,145[1]	19,412	104,326[1]	20,923
Magnesia and Mfrs. of	198,694	12,191	146,773	11,470
Asbestos Roofing	784[2]	4,655	75,196[2]	61,366
Other Manufactures	170,362	18,394	144,584	13,983

[1]Lin. Ft. [2]Sqs.

Imports and Exports by England.

Imports of Raw Material.

	December 1934		December 1935	
	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
From Africa (Rhodesia)	1,236	£28,720	1,490	£35,515
From Africa (Union of S.)	862	14,424	467	7,456
From Australia	33	408	.....	.....
From Canada	1,807	26,529	863	11,459
From Cyprus	45	731	23	132
From Federated Malay States	100	800	.....	.....
From Finland	26	167	22	152
From France	5	38	.....	.....
From Italy	4	149	3	194
From Soviet Union (Russia)	8	119	68	2,815
From U. S. of America	49	853	.....	.....
From Venezuela	5	202	.....	.....
	4,180	£73,140	2,936	£57,723

Exports of Asbestos Manufactures:

	December 1934		December 1935	
	Cwts.	Value	Cwts.	Value
To Irish Free State	2,104	£2,377	3,365	£2,852
To British India	2,987	7,349	4,543	8,739
To Australia	992	5,486	1,184	5,621
To Other British Countries	25,558	22,433	13,260	21,701
To Netherlands	1,358	3,739	1,007	3,320
To Belgium	522	2,314	350	3,080
To France	619	2,978	415	2,856
To Italy	545	3,143	67	620
To Other Foreign Countries	6,422	21,033	12,463	31,334
	41,107	£70,852	36,654	£80,123

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Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada

(Figures by Dominion Bureau of Statistics)

	December 1934		December 1935	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
United Kingdom	216	$12,410	371	$32,244
United States	3,006	129,314	7,248	378,628
Australia	124	6,160	258	12,801
Belgium	250	16,698	1,036	61,731
France	491	29,830	938	55,213
Germany	715	48,317	75	6,787
Hungary	.....	.....	20	960
Japan	3,785	141,231	5,114	201,032
Netherlands	105	4,917	687	46,003
New Zealand	1	55	.....	.....
Poland	20	1,900	....	.....
Spain	....	.....	98	5,821
Uruguay	....	.....	25	2,398
	8,713	$390,832	15,870	$803,618
Sand and Waste—				
United States	40	729	274	5,300
United States	5,194	69,644	9,004	141,410
Argentina	7	202	....	.....
Australia	1	20	....	.....
British India	60	750	....	.....
Belgium	90	1,725	80	1,057
France	60	930	60	805
Germany	744	15,606	130	1,718
Japan	15	292	45	1,315
Netherlands	107	1,973	187	3,982
	6,318	$91,871	9,780	$155,587
	15,031	*$482,703*	*25,650*	*$959,205*

ASBESTOS

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR—ENGLAND

Imports of Raw Materials.

	Year 1934		Year 1935	
	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2240 lbs.)	Value
Africa (Rhodesia)	11,266	£238,416	11,892	£274,345
Africa (Union of South)	6,415	118,024	10,938	155,826
Africa (Port. E.)	13	259	.....	1
Australia	72	1,122	145	2,006
Austria	26	178	60	414
Belgium	2	26	2	37
British India	3	151	7	342
Canada	6,106	90,681	7,168	83,997
Cyprus	908	15,537	177	6,769
Czechoslovakia	.....	.....	2	19
Federated Malay States	100	800	.....	.....
Finland	135	879	95	625
France	5	38	.....	.....
Germany	2	57	23	630
Italy	85	930	56	2,606
Netherlands	2	67	.....	71
Soviet Union (Russia)	1,648	27,666	1,230	31,966
Switzerland	.....	6	.....	2
U. S. of America	395	5,965	64	1,446
Venezuela	5	202	47	653
	27,188	£501,004	31,906	£561,755

Exports of Asbestos Manufactures.

	Year 1934		Year 1935	
	Cwts.	Value	Cwts.	Value
To Irish Free State	52,044	£38,518	43,226	£38,827
To British India	51,513	90,912	42,146	88,608
To Australia	9,691	58,563	11,784	61,255
To Other British Countries	131,107	206,830	154,466	237,117
To Netherlands	12,842	42,970	13,702	44,783
To Belgium	8,031	36,997	6,540	39,034
To France	6,770	31,101	7,580	32,567
To Italy	5,238	43,054	4,585	43,853
To Other Foreign Countries	95,232	319,847	135,956	378,494
	372,468	£868,792	419,985	£964,538

SUMMARY FOR THE YEAR—CANADA

Exports of Raw Asbestos from Canada.

	Year 1934		Year 1935	
	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value	Tons (2000 lbs.)	Value
United Kingdom	4,618	$316,468	4,584	$290,569
United States	44,541	1,996,915	61,059	3,079,366
Argentina	.....	.....	.....	13
Austria	.....	.....	.....	15
Australia	998	49,859	2,004	99,632
Belgium	3,548	191,519	4,814	270,606
British India	63	1,500	40	2,000
Czechoslovakia	.....	.....	.....	55
Dutch East Indies	....	.....	3	150
France	3,969	243,416	3,781	254,142
Germany	5,435	441,188	4,913	438,062
Hungary	.....	.....	20	970
Italy	618	58,090	806	74,435
Japan	18,489	679,723	15,597	628,597
Netherlands	734	35,800	1,671	110,725
New Zealand	1	55	.....	.....
Poland	73	5,729	114	7,325
Portugal	....	.....	20	1,538
Spain	162	7,887	710	37,328
Uruguay	18	1,042	50	4,648
	83,267	$4,029,191	100,186	$5,300,176
Sand and Waste—				
United Kingdom	2,080	44,620	3,595	75,516
United States	68,171	964,429	92,810	1,440,995
Argentina	22	367	30	296
Australia	181	2,727	3	66
Belgium	455	8,968	833	14,407
Brazil	5	45	11	176
British India	60	750	60	720
Cuba	30	360	30	324
France	540	10,075	320	6,200
Germany	2,341	47,265	1,438	27,669
Italy	186	3,927	.....	.....
Japan	177	2,519	100	3,061
Mexico	.....	.....	.....	203
Netherlands	579	12,201	700	14,776
Poland	120	1,755	.....	.....
Puerta Rica	30	297	30	297
Spain	....	.....	....	.....
Sweden	....	.....	60	721
Venezuela	....	.....	5	54
	74,977	$1,100,305	100,025	$1,585,481
	158,244	$5,129,496	200,211	$6,885,657

NEWS OF THE INDUSTRY

Birthdays: The birthdays of executives in the Asbestos Industry which occur during the next thirty days are:

Clarence E. Witherspoon, President, Asbestos Construction Co., Inc., New York City, February 20th.

W. A. Godfrey, Secretary and Manager, Cape Asbestos Co., Ltd., London, England, March 1st.

J. P. O'Malley, Secretary, Standard Asbestos Mfg. ,Co. Chicago, Ill., March 1st.

Carl Bindman, Sales Manager, Johnson's Company, Thetford Mines, P. Q., Canada, March 7th.

E. J. Wilson, President, Elwood J. Wilson, Inc., New York City, March 7th.

P. M. Taft, President, P. M. Taft Asbestos Co., Holyoke, Mass., March 9th.

The Ruberoid Co., well known manufacturers of Asbestos-Cement shingles, sidings, wallboard, asphalt shingles and allied building products, has recently sent out an attractive broadside announcing the addition of Mineral Wool House Insulation to the Ruberoid line.

The Ruberoid Co. is manufacturing Mineral Wool at its Joliet, Ill., plant, and can supply bulk wool, granulated wool, mineral wool bats and mineral wool blankets.

Ruberoid-Watson Heat or Cold Insulating Products is the title of a new catalog just issued by The Ruberoid Co. Within its 36 pages will be found complete factual data and tables covering asbestos pipe coverings for low, medium and high temperatures, 85% Magnesia, and such insulation specialities as mineral wool, asbestos millboard, asbestos paper, corrugated asbestos paper, fireproof insulating board and asbestos cements. The catalog is attractively illustrated, and bound in a two-color, blue and silver, cover.

A number of tables on efficiencies of various types of materials, recommended thickness, heat losses, etc., make this catalog very valuable for anyone interested in the distribution and sale of insulation.

Brake Lining Manufacturer's Association, Inc., G. M. Williams, President of the Brake Lining Manufacturer's Association, Inc., (and also President of the Russell Manufacturing Company) announces that C. A. Ekwall of Watertown, Mass., has been elected Secretary and Acting General Manager of the Association. Mr. Ekwall has been Assistant Manager of the Association for the past two years. Previous to that he spent six years with the Texas Company.

Announcement has been made that the 1936 edition of the Automotive Data Book, published by the Brake Lining Manufac-

The Cape Asbestos Co Limited

Morley House 26-30 Holborn Viaduct London E.C.1

Factory, Barking, Essex

BLUE ASBESTOS

The World's largest producers of Blue Crocidolite invite your inquiries on their "Cape" quality. Unexcelled for:-

TEXTILES & PACKINGS

Yarns, Cloths and Packings made from Blue Asbestos are Acid-Resisting, of great strength and stand high temperatures.

ASBESTOS-CEMENT

Blue Asbestos, with its natural affinity for cement, is the ideal material in all wet processes of Asbestos Cement Manufacture. It speeds production through quicker drying and its natural "roughness".

ELECTRIC WELDING

In the form of Yarn, fibre or powder Blue Asbestos is the ideal flux for electric arc Welding.

We are suppliers of blue yarns, cloths, millboard, rope and processed fibres.

AMOSITE

Amosite Fibre owing to its great length, bulkiness and cheapness is unexcelled alone or in combination with other fibres for:-

85% MAGNESIA INSULATION

AGENTS:

United States and Possessions
ARNOLD W. KOEHLER, Jr.
369 Lexington Ave., NEW YORK CITY
Telephone: Caledonia 5-4044

turers' Association will be issued in March this year. This Automotive Data Book gives complete details on brake linings and clutch facings used on all makes of automobiles and trucks, and has become the recognized source of information on these products in the automotive industry. The headquarters of the Association is at 370 Lexington Avenue.

Asbestos Contractors' New England Association, The Annual Meeting of the Asbestos Contractors' New England Association was held at the University Club, Boston, on Wednesday, January 8, and the following officers were elected: President: Walter B. Swanson, Providence, R. I.; Secretary-Treasurer, Harold B. Buse, Cambridge, Mass.; Executive Committee, Charles Uhr, Harry W. Cook, Walter J. Ballou, George R. Henderson.

The Association has recently had printed a List Price Calculator and will be glad to supply copies to any members of the trade at a price of 25 cents each until the supply is exhausted. The headquarters of the Association is at 143 Broadway, Cambridge, Mass.

Mashaba Rhodesian Asbestos Co., Ltd. The following is reprinted from the South African Mining and Engineering Journal of December 14, 1935:

At the recent meeting of the Mashaba Rhodesian Asbestos Co., Ltd., Col. R. Bruce Hay, D. S. O., who presided, said that he had paid a visit to the property and with the help of Mr. Allen, the technical adviser, they had by August achieved a production of over 100 tons of finished fibre for the month, and that had been maintained each month since. During his visit he had been successful in acquiring options on three properties. In regard to one of them the mine manager said: "This property has turned out something we never expected at the time the deal was put through. Each day the work discloses a little more of its large potentialities." The directors remitted funds to Rhodesia for the completion of the purchase of that property. With regard to the Honeybird Mine (Shabani), the manager estimated that there was in sight a tonnage of ore which should realize in excess of £250,000. Having now achieved 100 tons a month, the technical adviser asserted that before long they would achieve 150 tons, shortly after 180 tons, and then up to the capacity of the present mill, about 300 tons. After that increased production must depend largely on additions to plant and increase in native labor. In view of the desirability of securing the Honeybird property and providing additional mill equipment, the directors had decided to increase the capital to £300,000 by the creation of 3,000,000 new shares of 1s. each, of which it was proposed to issue 1,500,000 at 1s. 3d. per share. It was difficult to estimate profits, but with a production of 300 tons monthly the return on the capital should be very satisfactory.

Another copy of the Journal states that it is planned to increase the Company's authorized share capital from £150,000 to £300,000, by creation of 3,000,000 new 1s. shares, to rank pari passu with the existing shares.

ASBESTOS

Asbestos Institute. The New York Office of the Asbestos Institute has been closed and all future communications for the Institute are to be addressed to C. J. Stover, 16th Floor, Inquirer Building, Philadelphia, Pa.

Bryce Haynes

We cannot let the occasion pass without comment on the excellent work of Mr. Bryce Haynes, who has been Secretary of the Institute since its inception up to the closing of the New York office, and also that of his assistant, Miss Marguerite Nieto. Mr. Haynes' interest in and devotion to the problems of the Asbestos Industry were extremely valuable in the organization of the facts and figures required by the National Industrial Recovery Act. He has the good wishes of us all for continued success.

Cyprus & General Asbestos Co. The young Danish "Cement King," Gunnar Hansen, is negotiating for the Cyprus & General Asbestos Company. The shareholders of the asbestos company met in London on January 28th, and a special meeting was called for February 10th at which final decision was to be taken.

Up to the time of going to press no further information is available.

Johns-Manville Corporation. George Dandrow has been appointed Manager of the New York District of the Power Products and Industrial Department, effective January 15th. Mr. Dandrow joined the Johns-Manville organization in 1922 directly following his graduation from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where he was intercollegiate hammer throwing champion and weight thrower on the 1920 American Olympic team. He has been successively in the Boston Branch, the general engineering staff in New York, and latterly Assistant Manager of the New York District.

Johns-Manville. The first general sales conference of the J.M Building Materials Department since pre-depression days was held during the week of January 13th, in New York City. Three hundred salesmen attended the conference and had presented to them by Sales Promotion Manager H. M. Shackelford the J-M Sales Plan for 1936.

The Sales Conference was in many ways the most unique affair of its kind ever held in the industry. It was held at Concert Hall, a small theatre at Barbizon Plaza and all tricks of stage-craft were employed to present dramatized ideas to the assembled salesmen. Many important bits of sales information were presented entirely by means of dramatic skits. A daily newspaper "The J-M Daily News," edited by members of the J-M

Sales Promotion Department Staff was published to record what transpired each day.

A talking motion picture entitled "The 40 Point Home" which later on is to be shown to contractors, dealers and consumers thruout the country, was one of the features of the conference. The salesmen also inspected the Triple Insulated House (see page 3) at New Rochelle.

Johns-Manville Sales Corporation at a meeting of 400 dealers from 13 states, held on February 1st, announced its Housing Guilding System. The Guilds will be set up as local units thruout the country and their purpose is to coordinate the activities of the dealer, contractor, architect, realtor, finance factor and manufacturer in creating sales thru visualization for the consumer of completed jobs and arousing a desire for new homes and repaired or remodelled dwellings. A two weeks school for retail dealer sales managers opened on February 17 in New York, entirely devoted to intensive study of actual application of the plan.

PATENTS

Apparatus for Testing Brakes. No. 2,022,057. Granted on November 26th to Lee L. Smalley, South Bend, Ind., assignor to Bendix Cowdrey Brake Tester, Inc., South Bend, Ind. Application April 14, 1933. Serial No. 666,201. Description upon request.

Article of Manufacture. No. 2,025,039. Granted on December 24th, 1935 to Philip D. Cannon, Plainfield, N. J. assignor to Johns-Manville Corporation, New York City. Application March 23, 1933. Serial No. 662,225.

A friction material adapted for use as automotive brake lining, comprising woven strands of wire-reenforced asbestos yarn forming a fabricated article including face and back portions, masses of self-sustaining friction compound inserted as a plurality of preformed strips between the said face and back portions together at close intervals between the positions of insertion of the said strips, and additional friction compound disposed over the exterior surface of the said fabricated article the preinserted and also the additional friction compound being in the condition of having been forced into the said face and back portions of the article, integrally united to each other, and hardened in situ.

Article of Manufacture. No. 2,025,052. Granted on December 24th, 1935 to Freas L. Hess, Somerville, N. J., assignor to Johns-Manville Corporation, New York City. Application December 10, 1932. Serial No. 646,597.

In making an article adapted for use as friction material, the method which comprises braiding reenforced asbestos yarns into a loosely fabricated tube, disposing within the tube a single shaped mass of semiplastic friction binder compound adapted to be hardened, applying a coating of friction compond to the outside of the band, pressing the tube and binder compound into a flat band, and thus uniting the said semiplastic binder and coating and then hardening the binder in situ.

ASBESTOS

Manufacture of Molded Compositions for Brake Linings. No. 2,025,951. Granted on December 31, 1935, to Joseph Nestor Kuzmick, Passaic, N. J., assignor to the Manhattan Rubber Manufacturing Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Passaic, N. J. Application November 13, 1933.

The process of making brake linings or similar friction material which consists in mixing dry fluffy asbestos fibres, a potentially reactive synthetic resin and a plasticizer to produce a relatively dry and fibrous mass or mix in which the fibres, resin and plasticizer are retained as distinct components of the fibrous mix, and in them reacting the fibrous mass or mix under heat and pressure to the infusible state to produce a molded article of friction material, the said molded article being shaped to form brake linings, clutch facings, brake blocks and the like.

Molded Composition for Brake Linings. No. 2,025,951. Granted on December 31, to Joseph Nestor Kuzmick, Passaic, N. J., assignor to The Manhattan Rubber Mfg. Division of Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc., Passaic, N. J. Application Nov. 13, 1933. Serial No. 697,808.

The process of making brake linings or similar friction material which consists in mixing dry fluffy asbestos fibres, a potentially reactive synthetic resin and a plasticizer to produce a relatively dry and fibrous mass or mix in which the fibres, resin and plasticizer are retained as distinct components of the fibrous mix, and in then reacting the fibrous mass or mix under heat and pressure to the infusible state to produce a molded article of friction material, the said molded article being shaped to form brake linings, clutch facings, brake blocks and the like.

Composition Friction Elements. No. 2,026,767. Granted on January 7 to John D. Alley, Pittsburg, Pa. Assignor to American Brakeblok Corporation, New York. Original application August 22, 1929. Serial No. 387,818. Now Patent No. 1,882,702, dated October 18, 1932. Divided and this application July 29, 1932. Serial No. 626,033.

Method of making a flexible composition friction element which consists in thoroly mixing 18 parts of drying vegetable oil and 2.7 parts sulfur with 25 parts finely divided pyrobituminous material, and 65 parts of short fibred asbestos, forming said mixture into shapes and then curing said shapes in a baking oven without pressure, for 4 to 5 hours at approximately 125° F. and then for 5 to 6 hours at approximately 300° F. to set the oil by sulfuration to bond the ingredients of the element.

Clutch Mechanism. No. 2,026,945. Granted on January 7 to George S. Lane, Passaic, N. J. Assignor to Raybestos-Manhattan, Inc. Application October 22, 1931. Serial No. 570,353. Description upon request.

Gasket Centering Means. No. 2,027,299. Granted on January 7 to Henry Bohmer, Jr., Woodbury Heights and Stanley S. Lippincott, Palmyra, N. J., assignors to Flexitallic Gasket Co., Camden, N. J. Application February 10, 1934. Serial No. 710,738. Description upon request.

THIS AND THAT

A. S. Royal, who will be remembered by many of our readers, particularly those in the Johns-Manville organization, writes us from Florida, where he now resides, that it is so delightful a place that he has almost forgotten there are such things as heat insulations and coverings to prevent pipes from freezing.

U. S. Commerce Reports (published by the U. S. Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce) states that a provisional commercial agreement containing reciprocal tariff concessions has been concluded between France and the Union of South Africa. Various articles, among which is asbestos, under this agreement will be dutiable at the most favored nation rates on importation into France from the Union of South Africa.

The agreement was effective on November 14, 1935, for the balance of the year pending the conclusion of a definite agreement.

An inquiry has reached us for No. 1 Arizona Crude of good quality. If any of our readers have any quantity of such material for sale, please contact us promptly.

According to postal regulations safety matches are acceptable for mailing only when packed in strong containers, such as double faced corrugated cartons, lined with asbestos or aluminum sheet, wrapped in asbestos or placed in carefully sealed metal containers.

The American Society for Testing Materials will hold its 1936 Regional Meeting on Wednesday, March 4, Hotel William Penn, Pittsburg; 1936 Group Meetings of the A. S. T. M. Committees on Monday, March 2nd, thru Friday, March 6, at the same hotel; while the 1936 (Thirty-ninth) Annual Meeting of the Society will be held on June 29th to July 3rd at the Chalfonte-Haddon Hall, Atlantic City, N. J.

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HOT OILS

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L. P. STEAM—HOT WATER AND AMMONIA

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High Resolve

I'll hold my candle high, and then,
Perhaps, I'll see the hearts of men
Above the sordidness of life—
Beyond misunderstandings, strife.
Though many deeds that others do
Seem foolishness, and sinful, too,
Were I to take another's place,
I could not fill it with such grace.
And who am I to criticise
What I perceive with my dull eyes?
I'll hold my candle high, and then,
Perhaps, I'll see the hearts of men.

—*Rays of Sunshine.*